

Washington, DC – Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced a \$1,225,400 grant for Eagle Pass Independent School District to construct a new school wing to house first graders, pre-K students and some Special Education students.

The grant, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (also known as the “Stimulus”) will provide better facilities and conditions for students, parents and staff at Ray H. Darr Elementary. Currently, students are in five portable buildings that are often infested with insects, rodents and reptiles during the change of seasons. The ceilings leak when it rains and the vinyl floor tiles are loose and cracked.

“Children need a safe, healthy environment in order to maximize their learning,” said Congressman Rodriguez. “This grant will pay for a new wing that will address the current problems and use newer, more efficient building technology to save energy. There is no better investment for the long-term than educating our children and these Stimulus funds will fund that worthy goal.”

Superintendent Jesus Sanchez said the District is elated at the news and noted that this is the first time the District has received such an award.

“Through this grant the Eagle Pass ISD will construct eight classrooms, a computer lab and restrooms facilities. The students will be able to learn in a positive learning environment and will no longer have to weather the seasonal conditions in their portable rooms,” Superintendent Sanchez said. “Congressman Rodriguez has provided our district a great opportunity to plan for a lifetime by providing this funding to expand our learning facilities in this rural area.”

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